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ture of high grade. A practical furniture man, who for several years has represented a widely known eastern house in this market at the annual openings, has for some time contemplated this move, and it is understood that several Grand Rapids manufacturers will be interested with him in the enterprise. It is expected that arrangements will be completed to begin operations this fall. The factory will probably be located near the Stickley chair factory.

#### OBITUARY.

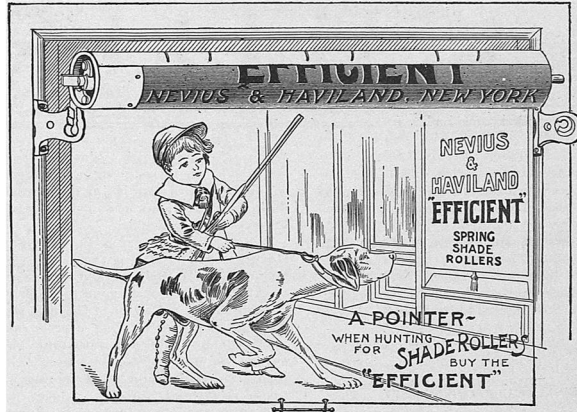
WILLIAM N. SIMPSON.

WILLIAM SIMPSON, member of the carpet commission firm of McClain & Simpson, in Worth Street, and interested in the retail furniture and carpet house of McClain, Simpson & Co., Thirty-seventh Street and Eighth Avenue, died Thursday, August 9th, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, of typhoid fever, at his home, 429 West Forty-third Street. He was ill for a week before he gave up, but attended to his business every day. The fever closed his earthly career in two weeks after he took to his bed. Notice of the funeral in the daily papers was sufficient to crowd the house in West Forty-third Street last Sunday afternoon. Many friends, both in the furniture and carpet trades, gathered about his bier and listened to the eulogy of Rev. Dr. Singleton. Later in the day the remains were laid away in Greenwood.

William Simpson was an Irishman. He was born in the parish of Aghadowey, County of Derry, Ireland, May 23, 1851. At the age of eighteen he came to this city and after a short stay he went to Philadelphia. He obtained employment in a carpet factory and learned weaving, sticking to the loom five years. About '73 he returned to New York and secured a porter's place in the carpet department of H. B. Claffin & Co. He remained with this firm nearly eighteen years, and rose to be associate manager of the department. He left the Claffin company to become a manufacturer of carpets. For four years the firm of Simpson & McAllister wove body Brussels carpets in the Quaker City. About that time the large carpet manufacturers were, through combinations, absorbing the smaller men, and a favorable opportunity presenting itself, Simpson & McAllister sold out and retired. Mr. Simpson returned to New York again, and he and D. W. McClain formed the carpet commission house of McClain & Simpson. In March, 1890, the retail house of McClain, Simpson & Co. was formed.



THE *Season* for August, just received, is filled with new and seasonable mid-summer styles. On the large plate eight colored designs are shown, four pretty traveling costumes being of the number. Plate 1062 shows two handsome toilettes, very new in design, and will be found of practical use. Plate 1063 shows toilettes suitable for out-door fete or the seaside. Throughout the entire book will be found handsome designs suitable for every occasion; evening, morning and promenade toilettes for home and out-door wear. The children are not forgotten, and numerous quaint little toilettes for children of both sexes will be found, plainly illustrated and described. The art designs are beautifully shown, with thorough descriptions making, and will be welcomed in all homes for the pretty trifles made up in our resting hours of the summer, make the home pleasant and cheerful in the winter, and is one of the surest



## ANOTHER POINTER.

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A word to the wise is "Efficient."

means of insuring happy homes. Every lady should secure a copy of *The Season* for August.

THE paper on "Male and Female Attire in Various Nations and Ages," by Mrs. Ellen Battelle Dietrick, in the August *Arena*, will get a wide reading. It is an historical examination of the fascinating subject of costume, which meets the arguments of those opposed to modern dress reform movements, on the grounds of custom and historical precedent, by showing that women were the original inventors and wearers of trousers, and that their early use by men was deprecated as effeminate. Strabo, a Greek historian, about 450 B. C., remarks this peculiar feminine costume which the Persians adopted after conquering the Medes, from the vanquished. The Greeks and Romans, Thracians, Cilicians, etc., then all wore skirts, men and women alike. Tertullian in the third century, A. D., remonstrates with the effeminacy of Roman nobles in adopting trousers imported from Persia. To-day the Greek and Highland soldiers wear short skirts. The hardy women of Northern China wear trousers, and are as strong and active as men. So that custom and history show that the sexes have changed costumes, and at different periods of high civilization as well as of barbarism, they have dressed exactly alike. The article is illustrated with costumes of men and women in skirts and trousers in different ages, nations and countries.

T. H. BENTZON, writing of "Conversation in France," in the August number of the *Century*, says of Mme. de Girardin's salon:

She has given in a humorous way very good receipts for conversation: "First of all, the quality of the talkers; secondly, the harmony of their minds; and thirdly, a propitious arrangement of the furniture." "An amusing conversation," she says, "cannot start if the chairs are arranged symmetrically. The disposition of a drawing-room must be like that of an English garden—apparent disorder, which is not the effect of chance, but, on the contrary, of consummate art, the result of fortunate combinations. In a symmetrically furnished drawing-room, it is only at the end of the evening, when the furniture has against its will yielded to the necessities of society, that enjoyment begins. You just begin to amuse yourself when it becomes necessary to take leave.

"And remember," she adds, "that good talkers hate idleness; the most witty men hardly know what to say when they ceremoniously hold their hats in their hands; they must have some valuable thing to finger and help them keep countenance—dainty scissors or penknife, a golden chain, a jeweled smelling bottle. The more you scatter trifles and baubles in your salon, the less nonsense there will be in conversation. But before anything," she recommends, "let yourself go; do not think of yourself; forget the talent you may have."